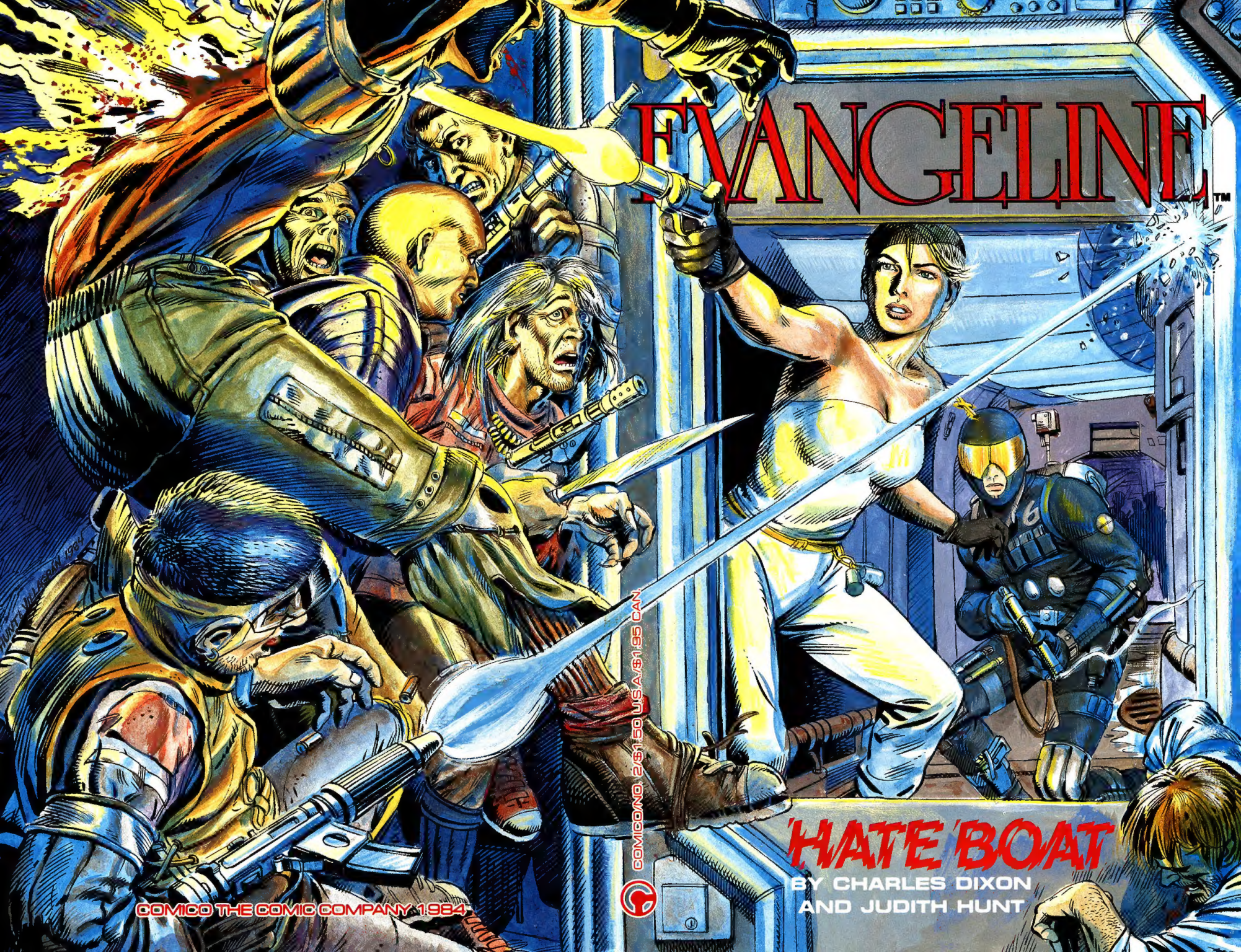
EVANGELINE™
'HATE BOAT
BY CHARLES DIXON
AND JUDITH HUNT
COMICO NO. 2 $1.50 U.S.A./$1.95 CAN.
COMICO THE COMIC COMPANY 1984

'HATE 'BOAT

STORY BY **CHARLES DIXON**
PENCILS & COLOR BY **JUDITH HUNT**
INKS BY **RICARDO VILLAGRAN**
LETTERS BY **ROD OLLERENSHAW**

SEND ALL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS TO:

THE CONFESSIONAL
c/o COMICO the COMIC COMPANY
1547 DeKalb St.
Norristown, Pa. 19401

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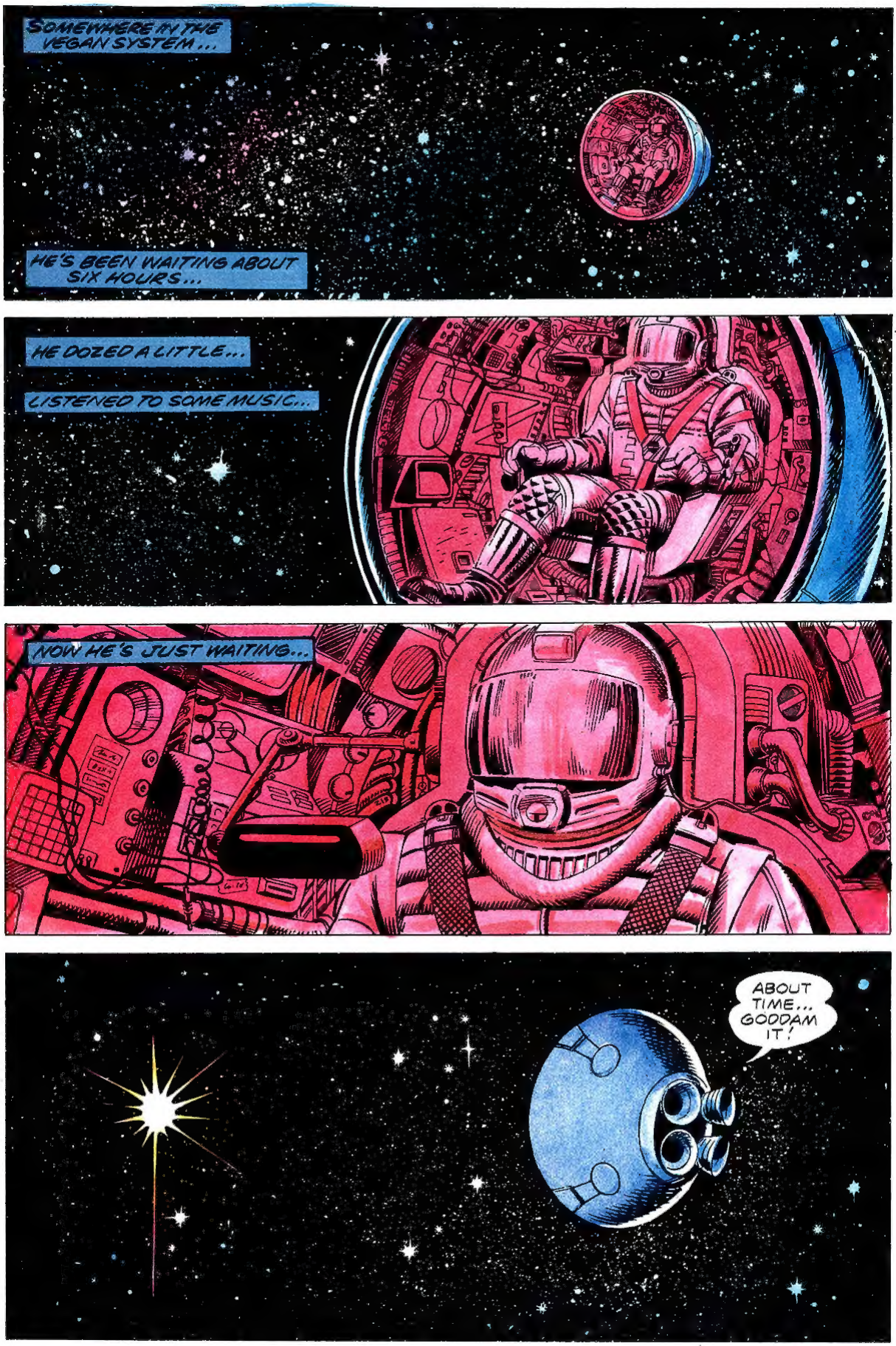
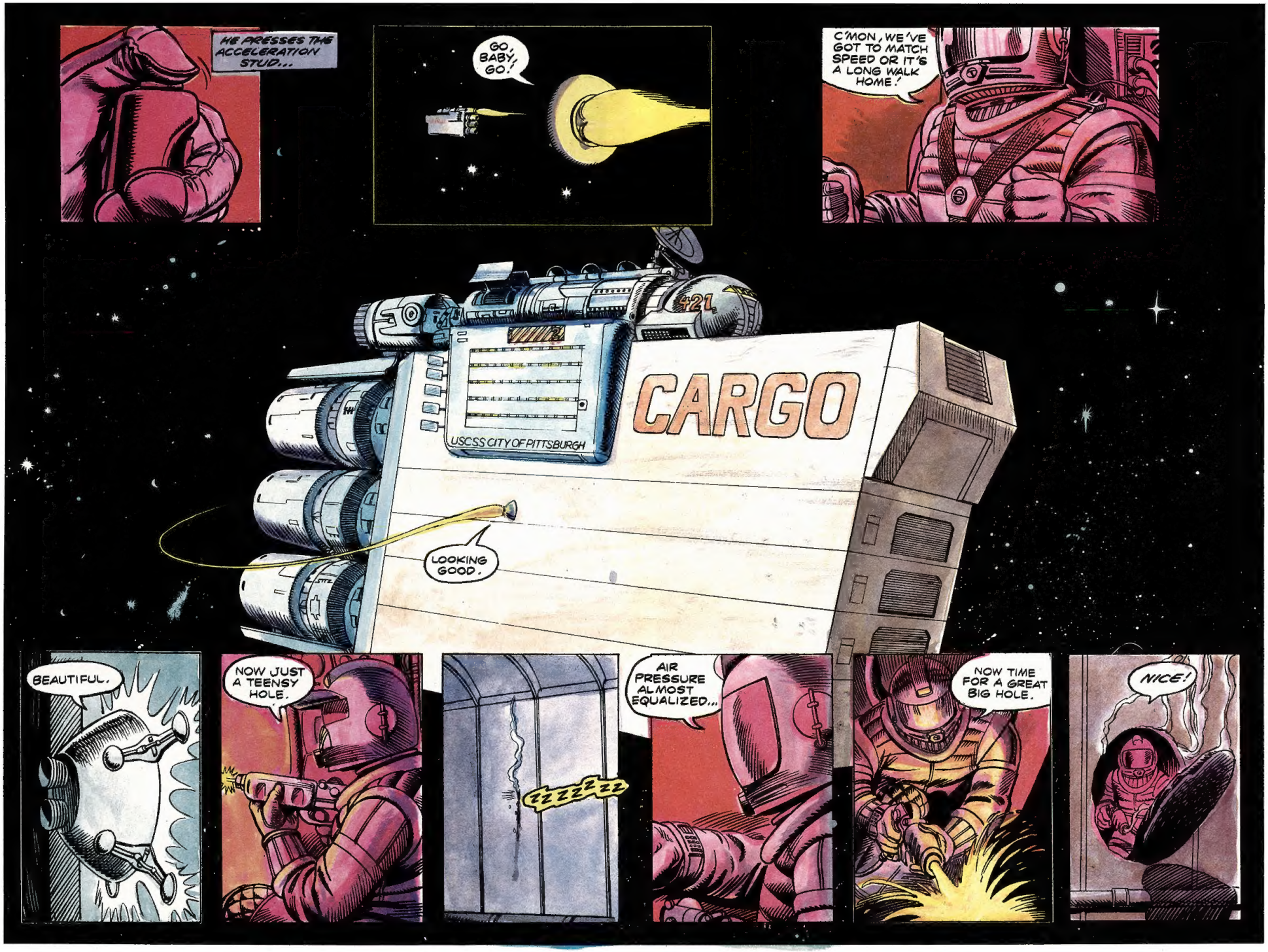
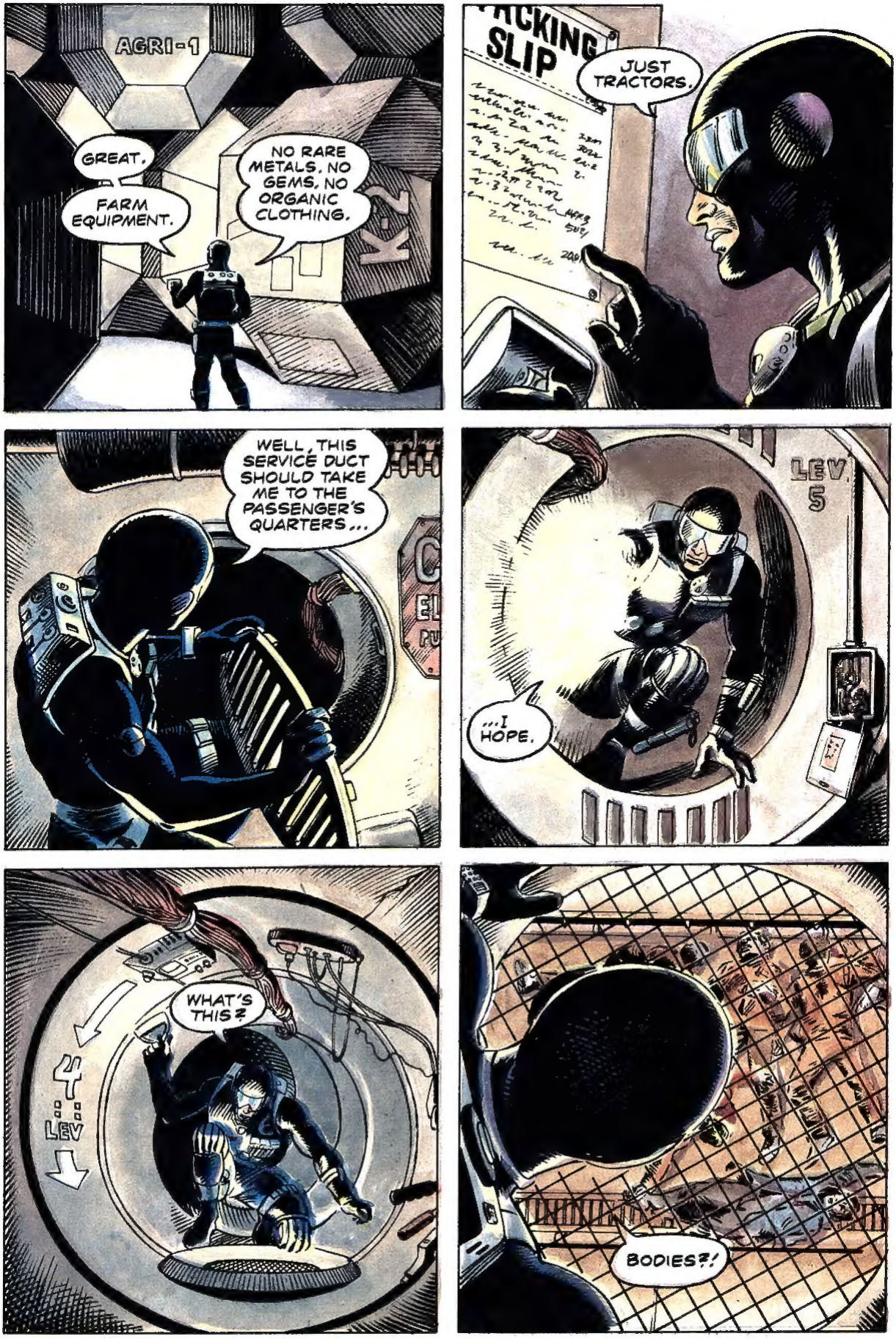

SOMEWHERE IN THE VEGAN SYSTEM...
HE'S BEEN WAITING ABOUT SIX HOURS...
HE OOZED A LITTLE...
LISTENED TO SOME MUSIC...
NOW HE'S JUST WAITING...
ABOUT TIME... GODDAM IT!


HE PRESSES THE ACCELERATION STUD...
GO, BABY, GO!
C'MON, WE'VE GOT TO MATCH SPEED OR IT'S A LONG WALK HOME!
CARGO
USCSS CITY OF PITTSBURGH
LOOKING GOOD.
BEAUTIFUL.
NOW JUST A TEENSY HOLE.
ZZZZZZZZ
AIR PRESSURE ALMOST EQUALIZED...
NOW TIME FOR A GREAT BIG HOLE.
NICE!

I GOT A LITTLE BOBBLE BACK IN CARGO.
PROBABLY NOTHING...
ANYBODY HOME?
HEY, THIS CORRIDOR IS PRESSURIZED AND BREATHABLE.
COULD MEAN TROUBLE...
...SO I TOLD HER TO GET LOST.
...OR COMPANY.
YEAH?
YEAH. I TOLD HER I WASN'T MARRYIN' HER...
...I COULD DO BETTER THAN HER.
HEY, LOOK!
IT'S A HOLE.
RIGHT THROUGH THE HULL!

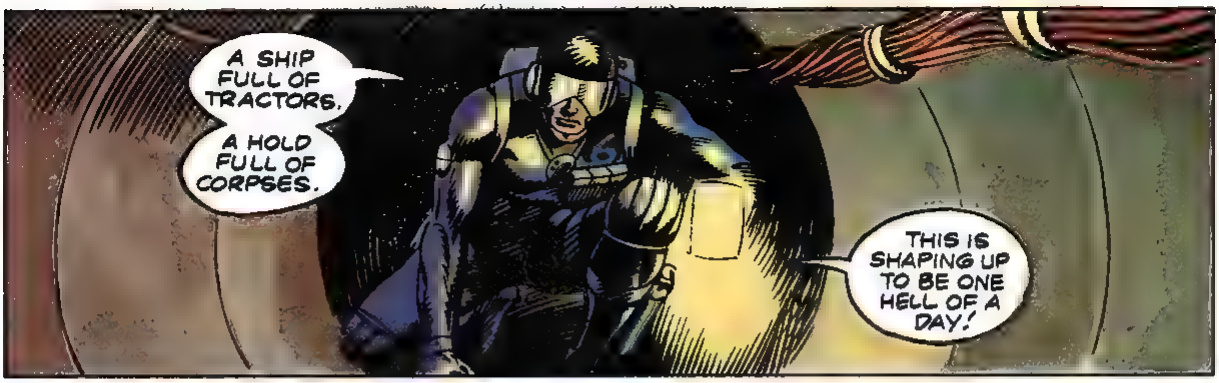
UK!
OOO...
ELSEWHERE...
LOUNGE
MAIN DECK 6
SIX WEEKS IN SPACE... ...ASLEEP.
BEATS BEING BORED OFF YOUR ASS.
HEY, CAP'N, WHERE'S THE FOOD? I'M STARVED.
MR. LEWIS, MR. FRYE... I UNDERSTAND YOUR IMPATIENCE, BUT THE CONTESSA'S NOT YET SEATED.

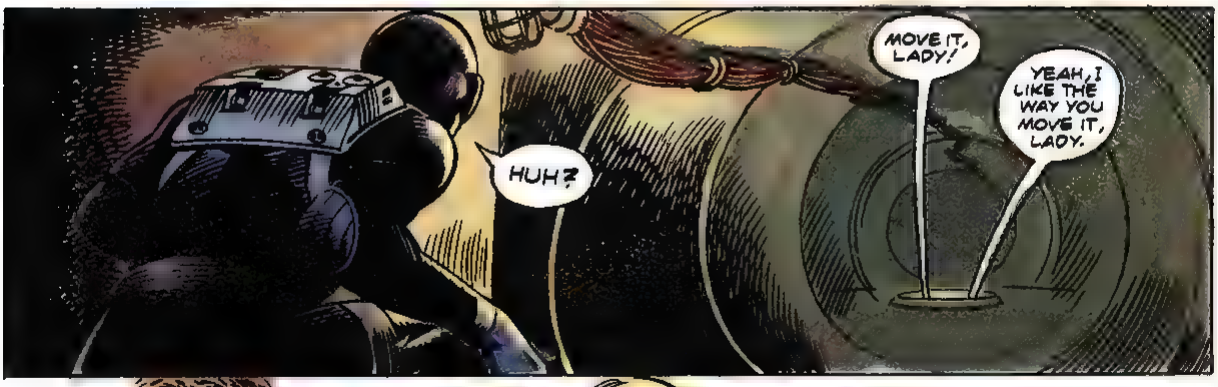
CONTESSA? I PAID GOOD MONEY FOR A CABIN ON THIS TUB...
...TOO MUCH TO SIT WAITIN' FOR SOME FAT OLD BITCH TO FINISH WATERING HER POODLE!
AH... CONTESSA EVANGELINA...
EXCUSE ME FOR BEING LATE CAPTAIN.
SORRY IF I INCONVENIENCED ANYONE.
NOT AT ALL CONTESSA...
NOT AT ALL.
SO WHAT IS YOUR BUSINESS IN THE VEGAN SYSTEM?
I MUST LOOK INTO SOME OF MY FAMILY'S HOLDINGS.
IS YOUR'S AN OLD FAMILY?
ONE OF THE OLDEST IN EUROPE.
JOHN JOE


AGRI-1
GREAT.
FARM EQUIPMENT.
NO RARE METALS. NO GEMS, NO ORGANIC CLOTHING.
PACKING SLIP
JUST TRACTORS.
WELL, THIS SERVICE DUCT SHOULD TAKE ME TO THE PASSENGER'S QUARTERS...
LEV 5
...I HOPE.
WHAT'S THIS?
4 LEV
BODIES?!

TERRIFIC FEED, CAP'N.
I'LL MAKE SURE YOU GET FED AS WELL IN THE BRIG.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
A HIJACK CAP'N. WE'RE TAKING YOUR SHIP.
NOT MY SHIP.
NOT WHILE I LIVE.
BLAM!
SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY, CAP'N.

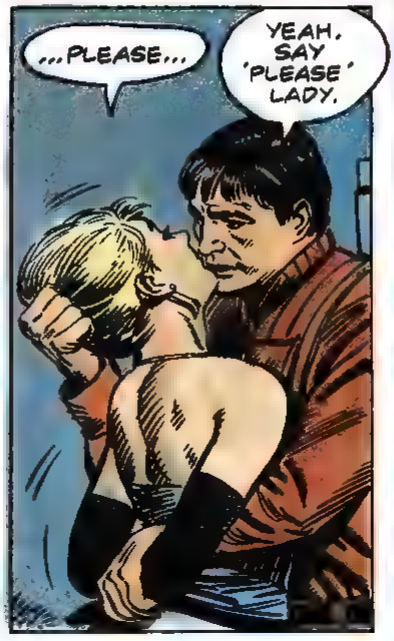
HOW CAN YOU HOPE TO GET AWAY WITH THIS?
REAL EASY, COUNTESS. HALF THE CREW'S WORKING FOR ME. AND THE OTHER HALF...
...IS WHERE THEY CAN'T GET IN MY WAY...
YOU MURDERED THEM TOO? YOU FILTH!
SHUT UP, BITCH!
TAKE HER AND LOCK HER IN THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN. I MAY HAVE SOME FREE TIME LATER.
I LIKE THE WAY YOU LOOK COUNTESS... OTHERWISE I'D HAVE 'EM SHOVE YOU OUT AN AIRLOCK.
KEEP THAT IN MIND.


A SHIP FULL OF TRACTORS.
A HOLD FULL OF CORPSES.
THIS IS SHAPING UP TO BE ONE HELL OF A DAY!


HUH?
MOVE IT, LADY!
YEAH, I LIKE THE WAY YOU MOVE IT, LADY.

WATCH IT, HARLEY!
HELL, FRYE, AIN'T GONNA MISS IT IF WE CUT OFF A SLICE!

WILL HE, LADY?

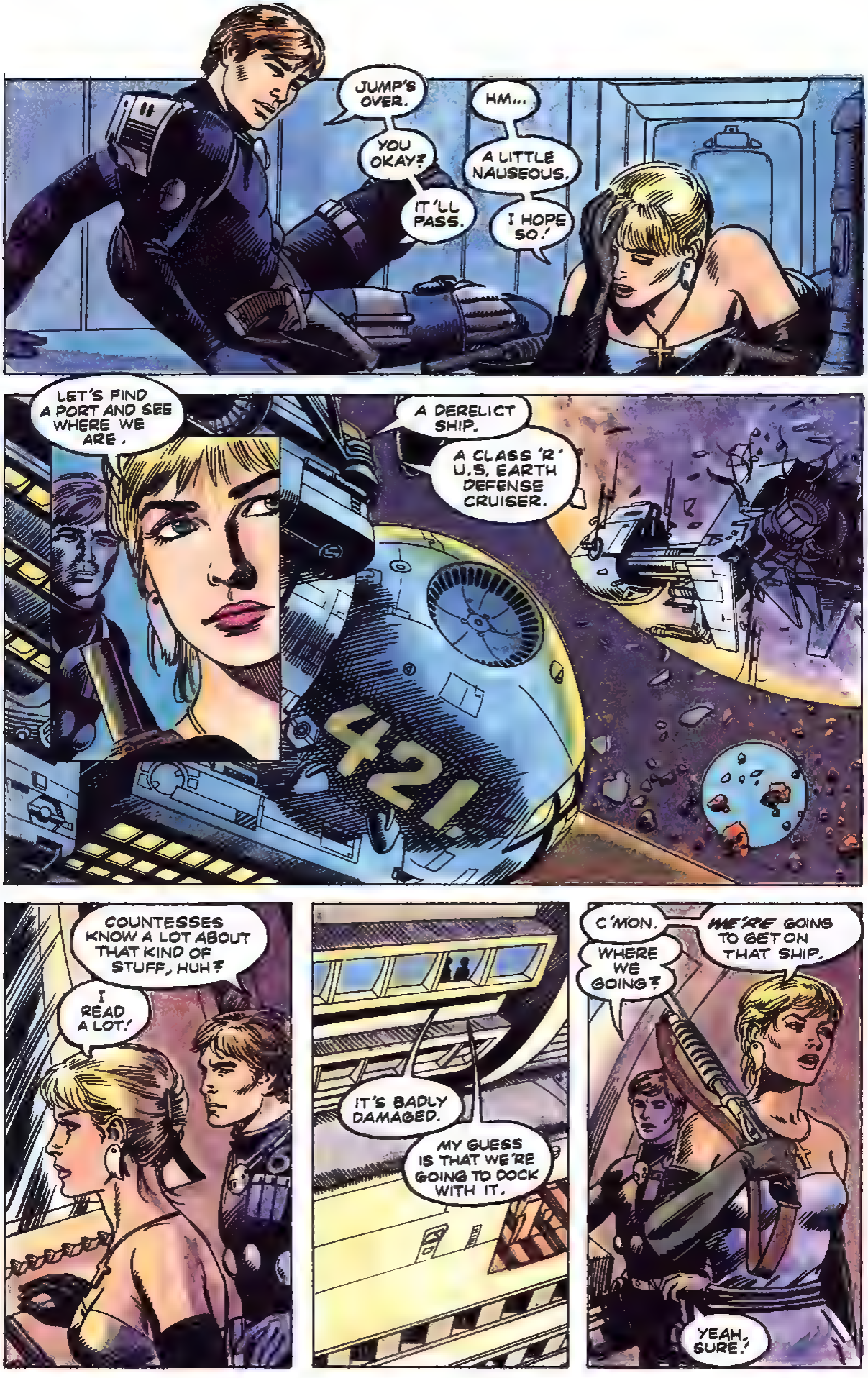

...PLEASE...
YEAH, SAY 'PLEASE' LADY.

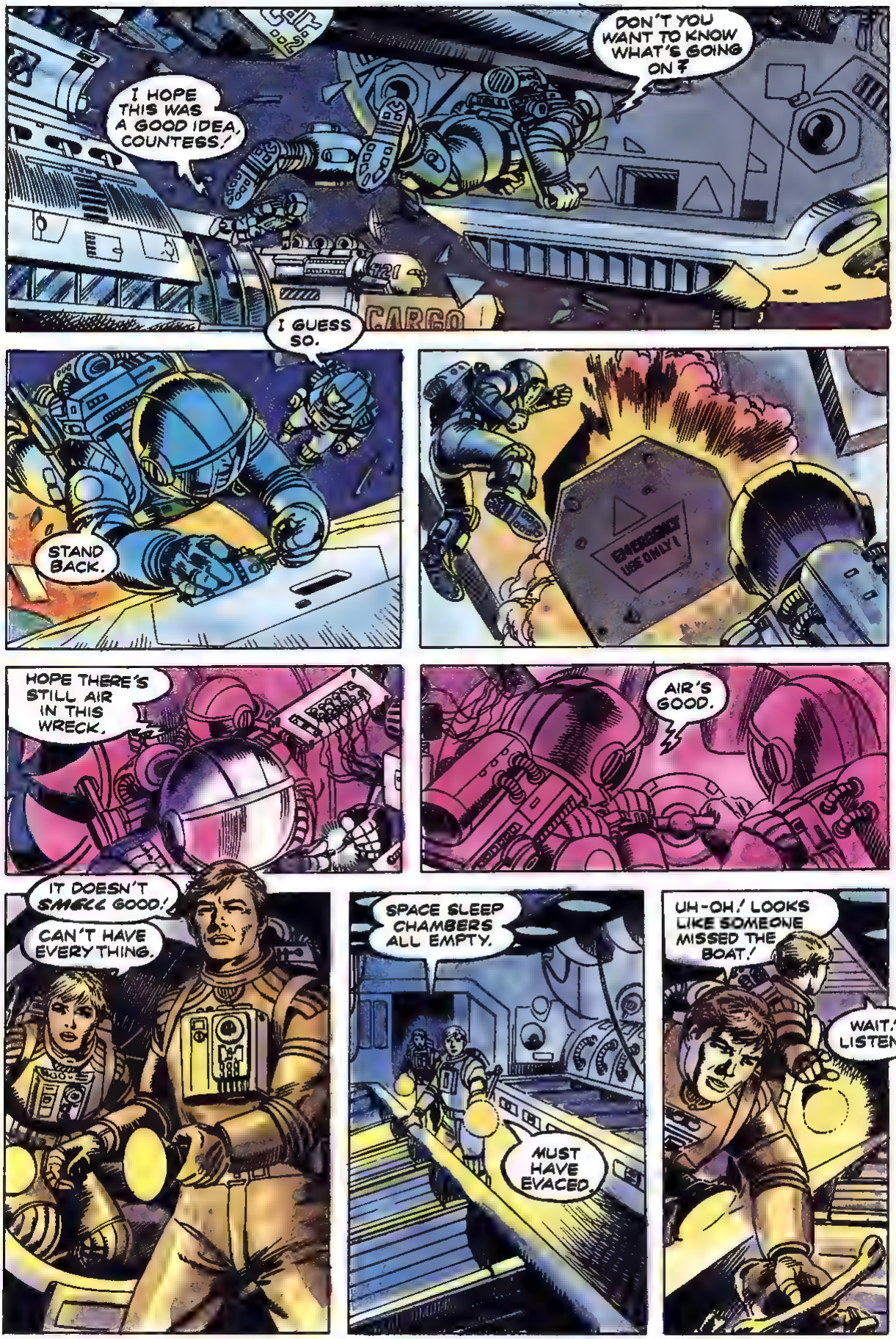
UF!

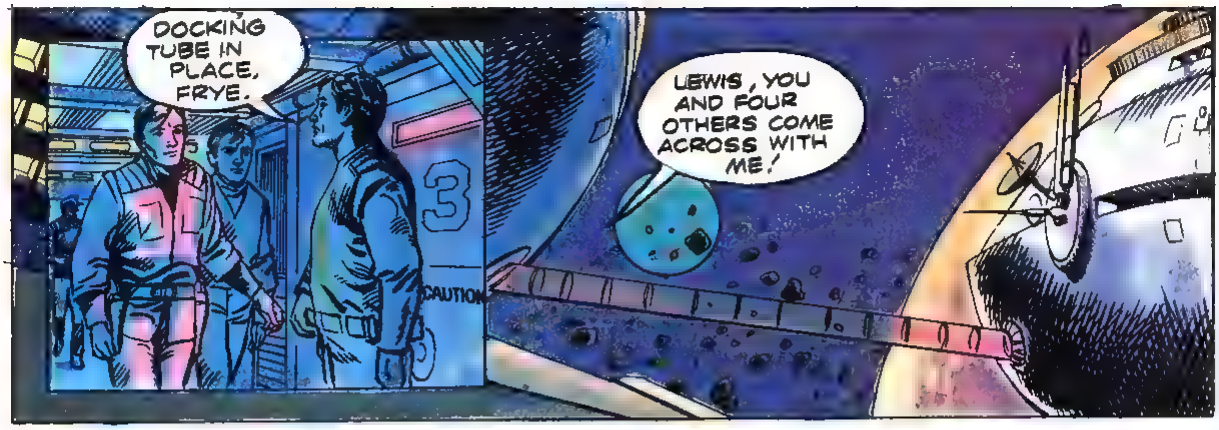
OOF!
UH UH
THUMP!
CRACK!
GLISH!
YOU... SLUT!
BLAM!
BLAM!

HEY!
DON'T SHOOT, MISS. I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED SOME HELP.
WHO ARE YOU?
JUST A COMMON CRIMINAL, MISS. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
SOME KIND OF MUTINY.
NOW TAKE OFF THE MASK.
YES, MA'AM.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
JONNY SIX.
I'M CONTESSA EVANGELINA DI CHRISTI. YOU CAN PUT YOUR HANDS DOWN.
MAYBE WE CAN, Y'KNOW, HELP EACH OTHER.
I WORK FINE ON MY OWN.
I NOTICED.
LOOK, WE'RE A BILLION MILES FROM NOWHERE ON A SHIP FULL OF HOMICIDAL MANIACS!
I WANT TO GET OFF THIS SHIP ALIVE. HOW ABOUT YOU?
I GUESS WE DO STAND A BETTER CHANCE TOGETHER.

THESE ARE THE COORDINATES. I WANT TO GET THERE FAST.
WE'LL BE THERE IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS.
THAT'S AN INTER-SYSTEM JUMP. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
I SAID FAST, MISTER. WE'RE GOING TO "JUMP" THERE.
LISTEN, I'VE BEEN WAITIN' TEN YEARS TO GET WHERE I'M GOING AND I AIN'T GONNA WAIT ONE DAY MORE!
NOW, YOU JUMP ME THERE AS CLOSE AS YOU CAN OR I'LL BLOW YOUR GODDAM HEAD OFF.
YES, SIR!
CLEAR FOR JUMP, YET?
AS MUCH AS WE CAN BE.
HANG ON, COUNTESS! FEELS LIKE WE'RE "JUMPING!"


JUMP'S OVER.
YOU OKAY?
IT'LL PASS.
HM...
A LITTLE NAUSEOUS.
I HOPE SO.
LET'S FIND A PORT AND SEE WHERE WE ARE.
A DERELICT SHIP.
A CLASS 'R' U.S. EARTH DEFENSE CRUISER.
421
COUNTESSES KNOW A LOT ABOUT THAT KIND OF STUFF, HUH?
I READ A LOT.
IT'S BADLY DAMAGED.
MY GUESS IS THAT WE'RE GOING TO DOCK WITH IT.
C'MON.
WHERE WE GOING?
WE'RE GOING TO GET ON THAT SHIP.
YEAH, SURE.


I HOPE THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA, COUNTESS.!
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
CARGO
I GUESS SO.
STAND BACK.
EMERGENCY USE ONLY!
HOPE THERE'S STILL AIR IN THIS WRECK.
AIR'S GOOD.
IT DOESN'T SMELL GOOD!
CAN'T HAVE EVERYTHING.
SPACE SLEEP CHAMBERS ALL EMPTY.
MUST HAVE EVACED.
UH-OH.! LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE MISSED THE BOAT.!
WAIT.! LISTEN.!


DOCKING TUBE IN PLACE, FRYE.
3
CAUTION
LEWIS, YOU AND FOUR OTHERS COME ACROSS WITH ME!

TEN YEARS AND I'M BACK!

BACK TO GET WHAT'S MINE.

STINKS IN HERE.
YEAH, TEN YEARS WORTH.

THE HOLD IS THIS WAY. YOU TWO WATCH THE TUBE. I DON'T WANT ANY CURIOSITY SEEKERS OVER FROM PITTSBURGH!

GET SOME LIGHTS ON SO WE CAN SEE WHAT WE'RE DOING!
THERE THEY ARE RIGHT WHERE I LEFT 'EM!

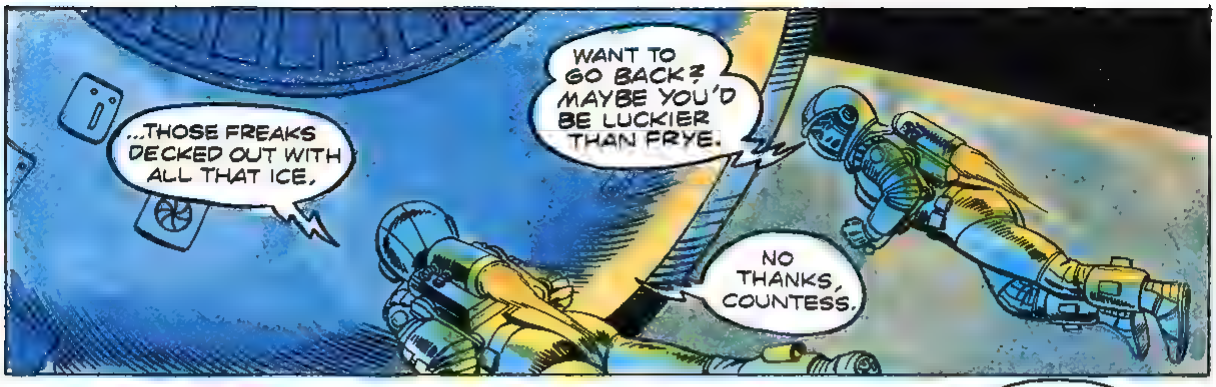
THAT'S RIGHT, MUTHAH, RIGHT WHERE YOU LEFT 'EM!
JESUS.

DAVIS!
NICE OF YOU TO REMEMBER ME FRYE....
AN' YOU MUST REMEMBER THESE GENNUL MEN...
...THE ONES YOU LEFT BEHIND TEN YEARS AGO!
WHAT'S LEFT OF 'EM.

HOW- HOW'D YOU WAKE UP?
HICKS, YOUR SECOND IN COMMAND, HAD A MAL-FUNCTION IN HIS SLEEP UNIT. HE WOKE UP AN' HE WOKE UP OTHERS AS HE GOT LONELY...
...OR HUNGRY.
BUT WE'VE BEEN WAITIN'. WE KNEW YOU'D BE BACK.
GO ON, FRYE. OPEN 'EM UP.

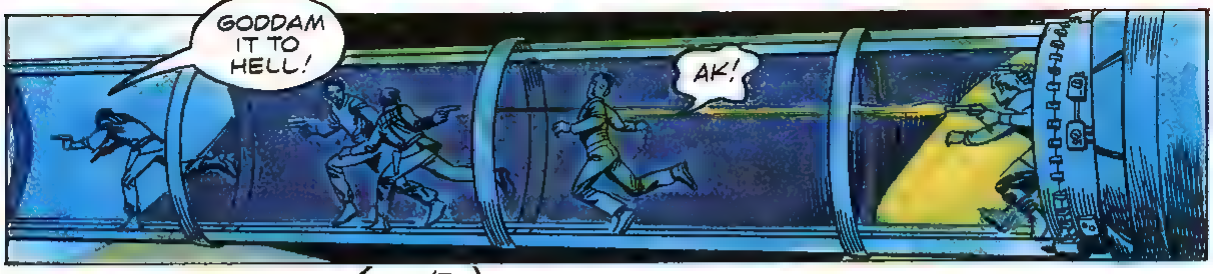
THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE HERE FOR AIN'T IT?
TAP! TAP!
THE JEWEL SHIPMENT FROM VEGA II'S THIRD MOON...
EMPTY!
PRIORITY CARGO
WHICH DISAPPEARED ALONG WITH THE U.S.E.D. CRUISER SHEPARD TEN YEARS AGO...
EMPTY!
THEY'RE ALL EMPTY!
...BUT AS YOU AND I BOTH KNOW...
THE SHEP WAS PARKED IN ORBIT AROUND SOME WORTHLESS MOON CIRCLIN' A NAMELESS PLANET.
AND IT'S ENGINES WERE BLOWN AND IT'S CAP'N ABANDONED IT AND LEFT THE WHOLE DAMN CREW IN THE FREEZER.
BET YOU NEVER EXPECTED US TO BE THAWED OUT...
EH, CAP'N?

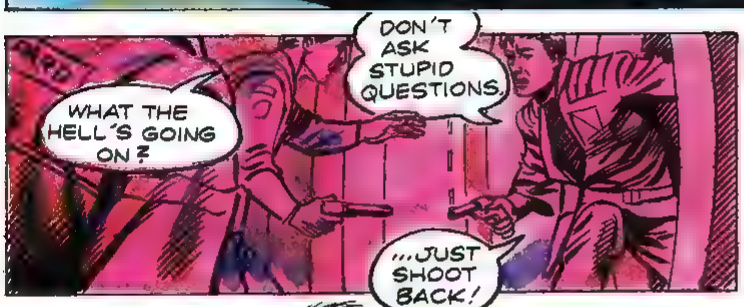
GUN 'EM!
D. JONES
KILL 'EM!
DON'T LET THEM LEAVE ALIVE!
SEEN ENOUGH?
YES.
WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE ACCESS TUBE!
C'MON ANDERS.
:KOFF: I CAUGHT ONE IN THE LUNGS... I NEED HELP.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU STARING AT? LET'S HAUL ASS!

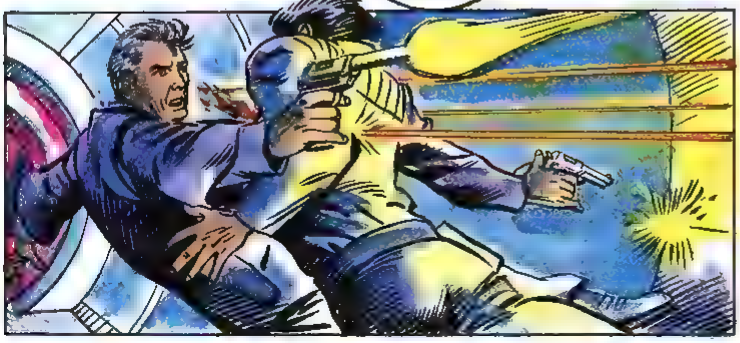

...THOSE FREAKS DECKED OUT WITH ALL THAT ICE.
WANT TO GO BACK? MAYBE YOU'D BE LUCKIER THAN FRYE.
NO THANKS, COUNTESS.

SHAG IT! WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK ON OUR SHIP IN A HURRY!
WHAT IS IT?!

WHAT?!
THEY'RE RIGHT ON OUR ASS!


GODDAM IT TO HELL!
AK!


WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
DON'T ASK STUPID QUESTIONS.
...JUST SHOOT BACK!



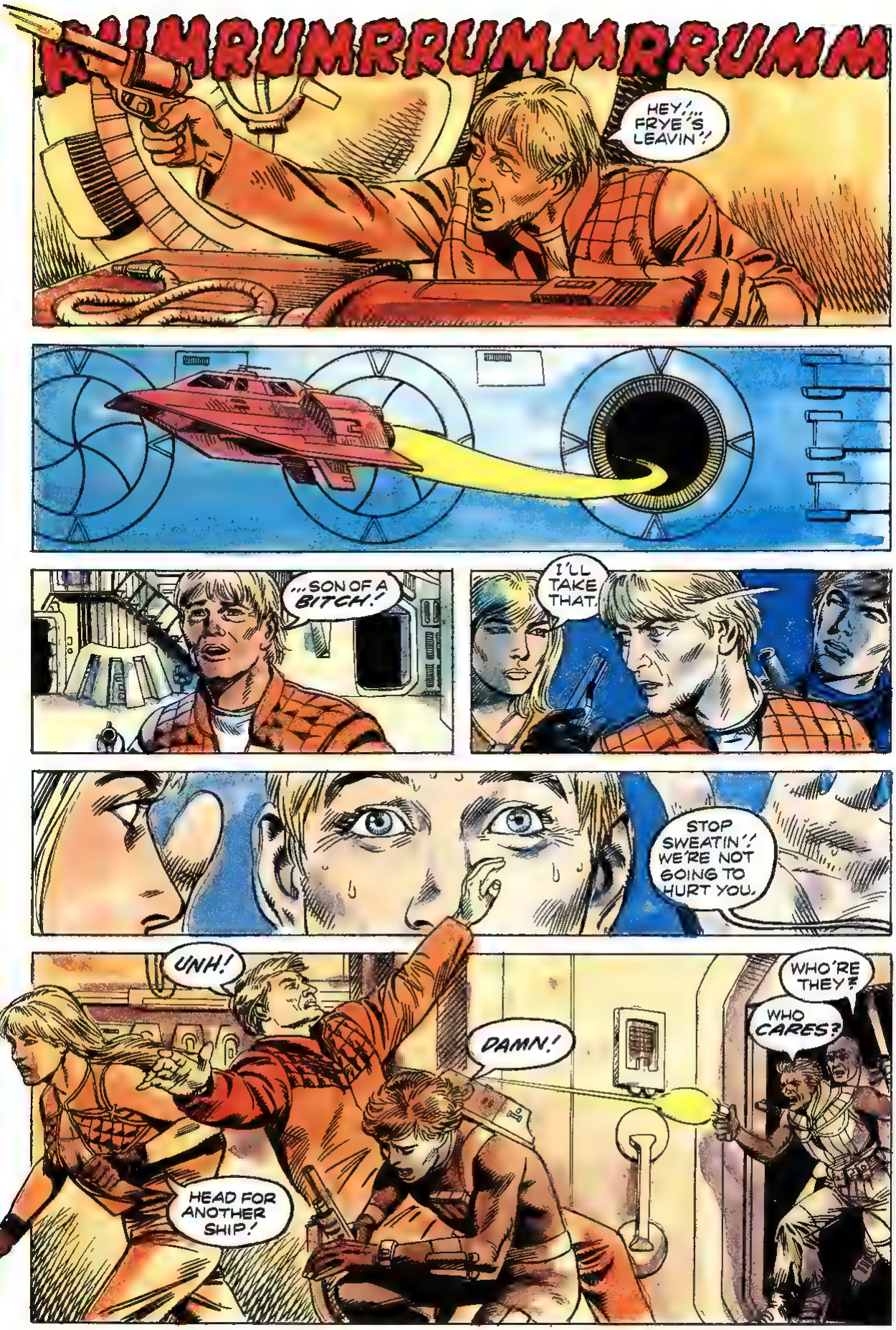
C'MON, CLOSE THE TUBE ACCESS!
BUT LEWIS IS STILL IN THERE!

FRYE!
I SAID CLOSE IT!
SURE, FRYE, SURE!
J.J. DECKER
FRYE! FOR GOD'S SAKE!
FRYE! YOU BASTARD!
THAT DOOR WON'T HOLD FOREVER. LET'S GET TO A LIFE SHIP!
BLAST IT OPEN! I WANT THAT SUCKER!
DAVIS3
HEAR THAT?
YES! WILL WHAT EVER YOU CAME IN CARRY TWO?
NO WAY! AND I'M A LONG WAY FROM MY PICK UP VEHICLE!
THEN WE'D BETTER FIND A WAY OFF THIS SHIP!

AND I THINK WE'D BETTER FIND IT QUICK!
HUH?
KILL 'EM.
RUN, COUNTESS! I'LL COVER YOUR UH... REAR.
LET'S SEE HOW THESE HOLD 'EM UP.
...WHILE WE RUN LIKE HELL!
SHOULD BE CLEAR FROM HERE ON.
PERHAPS NOT.
NOT THESE GUYS AGAIN!
SHUT UP AND SHOOT!
YOU'RE THE BOSS!

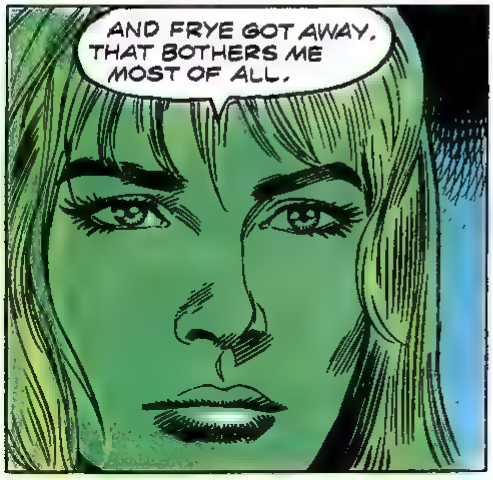
WE GOT COMPANY AT THE BACK DOOR.
WELL... DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE SURPRISES IN THAT SUIT OF YOURS?
THAT'S A PRETTY PROVOCATIVE QUESTION, COUNTESS.
BUT WE'VE GOT TIME FOR THAT LATER.
RIGHT NOW, YOU MAY FIND THESE AMUSING.
WHHRRRR
WHHHHHHRRRR
WHRRR

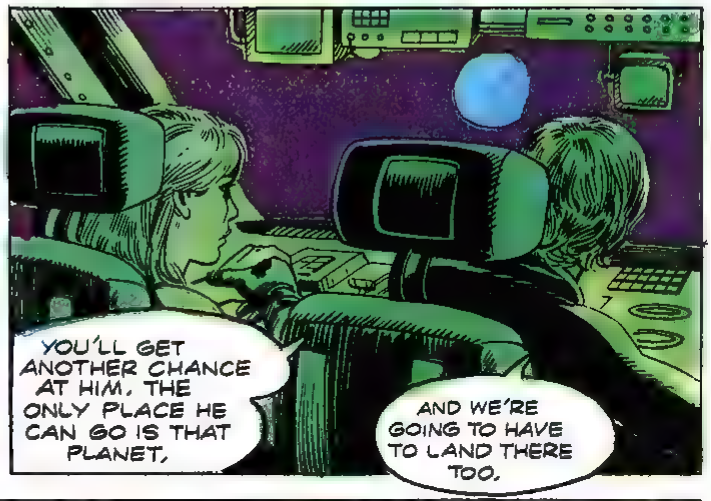
THE WAY'S CLEAR FOR NOW, LET'S GO COUNTESS!
RIGHT.
AK!
THE ESCAPE SHIPS SHOULD BE ALONG THE CARGO BAY.
FRYE!
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE LIKED OUR IDEA.
SECT
LIFESHIP
THE CONTESSA!
HUH?
WASTE 'EM AND LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

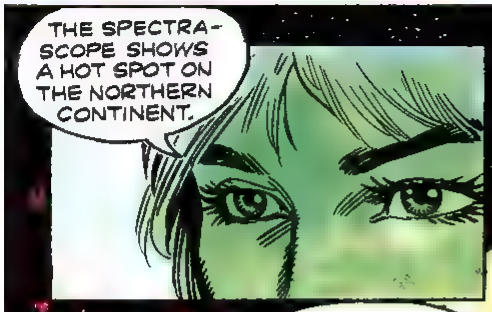

RUMRRUMMRRUMM
HEY!... FRYE'S LEAVIN'!
...SON OF A BITCH!
I'LL TAKE THAT.
STOP SWEATIN'! WE'RE NOT GOING TO HURT YOU.
UNH!
DAMN!
HEAD FOR ANOTHER SHIP!
WHO'RE THEY?
WHO CARES?

HOLD 'EM LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO OPEN THE HATCH.
WHERE ARE THEY ALL COMING FROM?
HURRY UP! AND GET THIS HEAP MOVING!
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!
BLOW THE TUBE BEFORE THEY TAKE OFF!
CAN YOU FLY THIS THING?
JUST STRAP IN AND SHUT UP.
OH... KAY.
BOOM!
THEY'RE BLASTING A HOLE TO US. GET THE HATCH OPEN!
YAHOO!
PUNCH IT, COUNTESS! PUNCH IT!

I THINK THEY TOOK OFF.
ONE MORE SHOT SHOULD DO IT.
FIRE IT.
NO! THE TUBE'S EMPTY!
BOOM
WHRAM!
THE TUBE'S A VACUUM!
IT'S SUCKING OUT THE AIR...







NEXT: **DINOSAUR FARM**

THE CONFESSIONAL

1547 dekalb street norristown, pa 19401

THE CONFESSIONALS:
Dear Person(s),

Knock! Knock! Anyone home here?

I felt compelled to drop a line to any remaining stragglers. I forgive your sins and they are numerous

First—waiting so long to do a color format.

Second—taking so long to get Evangeline to those of us who awaited her eagerly

Third— leaving us all disappointed

You may raise your heads now and receive my blessing (valueless at this point, I'm afraid). The only disappointment caused by this book is that there may not be anymore The story line was great and moved well. The art was lovely and more specifically, the color was the **best** I've seen to date. I was transfixed! 'Nuff said.

Amen,
M. Scott Douglass
Erie, Pa

Don't worry, M. Scott, Judy and I will continue doing Evangeline even if we have to go door to door Thank you for your overwhelming enthusiasm.

* * * * *

Dear Chuck, Judith, Ricardo, and Rod,

Thank you for the copy of your collective job "Evangeline"—excellent!

Judy's storytelling sense equals her fine drawing skills—with economy and clarity to boot, too! And, luckily, she was given a **story** to tell!

Well done color, icing on the cake!

Don't stop, eh?

Alex Toth

*Of all the artists in the comic field for you to say that our book was executed with economy and clarity is the highest praise we could have received. We **all** thank you.*

* * * * *

Dear Editor

"Guns of Mars" was definitely worth the wait. To go through the usual praise and compliments would be redundant. Anyway, they don't cut it when it comes to saying how much I liked this premiere issue. It was first-class. I haven't felt this excited about a debut since Atari Force #1 months ago, and I've read a few debuts since then. Keep up the same quality and I'll be with you 'til death or cancellation (Hopefully, neither are forthcoming!!)

By the way, even my father liked this story

J. Jacovino
LaGrange, Ky.

My dad liked it too, J. We share your enthusiasm for Atari Force, one of the obvious reasons being Ricardo's involvement on that book. We hope we can continue to entertain both your father and yourself. Thanks for the kind words.

* * * * *

Dear Charles, Judith, & Co.,

Just a few things that I liked (nay loved) about Evangeline #1. With a single issue you've created the kind of fascinating "atmosphere" that takes some writer-artist-inker teams months to create. Classy colors and letters, too.

About Evangeline's garb; **at last** a woman "warrior" who wears **real clothes** not metal bikinis or sprayed-on Lycra-Spandex bodysuits. Thank you!

And as far as the violence was presented, even though there is obviously gonna' be a lot of shoot-em-ups in the story they were done without gratuitousness or callousness. Thanks again

The cover and logo were very striking.

May you have a long and profitable future with **Evangeline.**

Sincerely,
Amy Sacks
(Comic Fan and Semi-JAP)
Deal Park, N.J.

Evangeline's outfits may get wilder but I can promise you, Amy, they'll never get explotive.

* * * * *

Charles, Judith, & Comico

Just writing to congratulate you on the achievement of EVANGELINE. I must say I've been anxious to see the work for some time now, having been teased by the fine art in the press release. Now that the first issue is finally out, I can only say that I wasn't disappointed

Judith's staging, panel breakdowns, and character studies are captivating, lively, and intriguing. The realistic "lived in" look of her designs did much to put the story across, give us a point cultural reference, and, in the end, make it all very believable Her costuming and weaponry are well thought out and functional. The continuity and panel pacing flows like the Martian red sands Great work, Judith You've got a fan—or, I should say, "another fan".

Charles' story is likewise intriguing The quick-cut flashbacks worked well (I was reminded of a film which, obviously, we all three share a common affection for: "The Outlaw Josey Wales"). You didn't tell us **too** much with these flashbacks, or with the dialogue itself Thanks for giving your readers credit for intelligence.

Anyway, gotta go. The drawing board calls, and there's work to do. Thanks for giving me a new favorite comic.

See ya,
Timothy Truman
Lake Geneva, Wi.

*And thank **you** for GRIMJACK, one of our favorite comics. As for your reference to "Josey Wales", we can only squint our eyes, grit our teeth and say, "Reckon so" under our breath. There's a little bit of "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" in the first issue too. Hope we can continue to live up to your generous praise*

Dear Charles and Judith (and everybody else!),

As soon as I opened the cover of Evangeline #1 I was impressed, and every page seemed to get better. The dialogue was reminiscent of the good-old Western, yet different enough that it doesn't sound tired.

The characters were all great as well. Not only Evangeline, but also the characters that were only in for a few pages. I'm not a religious person, but I respect anyone who devoted themselves wholly to something—including religion. That's why I found making Evangeline a nun so intriguing. I'm sure her character will go through a lot of interesting changes because of this Already I can anticipate the "eye for an eye but turn the other cheek" syndrome as a possibility.

The most important praise I have is about the sense of atmosphere you create. From the first page the reader is catapulted into a strange world that is somehow, familiar (human nature doesn't change, just the setting). All the little touches are great (the Sallytown sign, the Deesia label)!

One last word to Judith—bravo! I'm always happy to find a new book that a woman is working on Perhaps I'm biased, but it seems like the more women that break into the comic industry, the better it gets!

Sincerely,
Jennifer Bowles
Moline, Il.

*Unfortunately, not everyone feels the way you do about women working in comics If more women were involved in the creative end maybe there would be a larger female readership. Thanks for being a part of **our** female readership.*

* * * * *

Dear Charles and Judith,

I wanted to drop you a line to tell you how much I appreciated the copy of Evangeline. And I am particularly delighted to get it because it's a darn good book! The comic is a solid opening gambit well written in a nicely understated manner. A real good looking book, too. Congratulations and keep up the good work

I'm looking forward to the future issues.

And thanks again for the complimentary copy.

Best regards,
Walt Simonson

*And **we're** looking forward to each issue of Thor. We appreciate you taking the time to write especially when you're doing a **monthly** book. We're doing a bi-monthly and hardly have time to eat. How do you do it?*

* * * * *

That's all we have room for this time. Thanks to everyone who wrote.

—Charles Dixon

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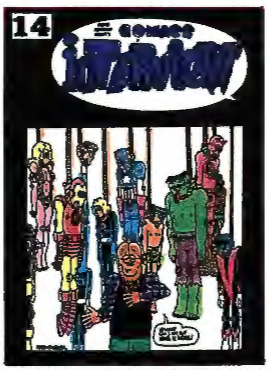

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